



VOX OCEANA

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NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME LII NO. 5

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2021

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FROM THE DEAN

Dear RI AGO Members,

I do hope that everyone has had a successful and rewarding opening to the new musical season. Your RI AGO Board of Directors has had its first meeting, and under the capable direction of our Sub-Dean, Gigi Mitchell-Velasco, has planned a wonderful year of events to aid us in our ministries. Our first event will be held on October 7, 2019, and promises to be exciting and worthwhile. Gigi has outlined the program in her column below. Please make every effort to attend. Also, just a gentle reminder to all members to renew membership for the coming year. Have a great year, and see you on October 7 at Sayles Hall, Brown University, 7pm. Let's support and learn from our member-presenter, Mark Steinbach and from Reverend Janet Cooper-Nelson.

Stephen P. Kirby, *Dean*

FROM THE SUB-DEAN

HOMECOMING 2019

Hello RIAGO family!

Last year was all about reaching out in to the community and beyond, to forge new pathways by:

- exploring our relationship to our pastors, clergy and congregations
- finding hymn texts and new settings of music that are more inclusive and supportive
- using more advanced technology with Hauptwerk
- partnering with another chapter for discovering new kinds of music
- discovering the talents of women artists and women composers
- moving our focus out into the larger music community at large.

I thank each and every one of you for making that season a fantastic success!

This year's theme is HOME and BACK TO BASICS: we members nurturing ourselves both mentally and physically and building our skills through self-care, holistic approaches and talent of our members. It is important to assess where we are as musicians and then further our own skills, making us better and healthier musicians in body, mind and spirit, so that we are better able to share our gifts with others. We want to reach all levels of our chapter, from the advanced church musician or concert artist to the committed beginner or dedicated amateur.

This year, whatever level you are, expect to participate and enjoy your ongoing journey as a musician. The theme of our first event, on October 7th, is self-care, *Body, Mind and Spirit*, and will take place at Sayles Hall on the Brown University Campus. Our very own **Mark Steinbach** will be giving an interactive presentation with both audience and selected participants on healthy practice techniques. Professor Steinbach has presented this workshop at a recent AGO National Convention, and

SubDean's message, continued

we are fortunate to have him reprise it for us! The evening will also feature our special guest, the **Reverend Janet Cooper-Nelson**, Chaplain of Brown University, who will address the "Mind and Spirit" part of our event.

I hope to see you all at each of this year's events. We take special care to honor you and our guest clinicians, and we are excited to begin another year celebrating US! It is Homecoming at RIAGO!

Gigi Mitchell-Velasco

Sub-Dean and Program Chair

2019-2020 SEASON THEME REVEAL
HOMECOMING: BACK TO BASICS

OPENING EVENT: BODY, MIND and SPIRIT

Monday, October 7, 2019, 7:00 pm at Sayles Hall, Brown University, 81 Waterman Street, Providence RI

Mark Steinbach, DMA, Brown University Organist and Senior Lecturer in Music, presents IMMEDIATELY PRACTICAL TIPS FOR HEALTHY PRACTICING

Join Mark for a workshop which he presented to the National Convention of the AGO in 2018, introducing participants to approaches to keyboard and pedal technique which help prevent injury, fatigue, and stage fright. Learn to maximize practice time and simply enjoy practicing and performing more! Concepts will be applicable to choirs as well.

The Reverend Janet Cooper-Nelson, Chaplain of Brown University and one time RIAGO Chaplain, will be covering SPIRIT as she speaks on how we can practice better self-care in navigating our busy and sometimes stressful roles as music ministers and nurturers in our churches. We are fortunate to have this extraordinary woman share her gifts with us this evening.

UPCOMING EVENTS – Dates TBD

PLEASE CONTINUO! – May 16, 2020

Peter Sykes and **Jacob Stott** introduce the basics of playing continuo and explore the art of thoroughbass or figured bass. This will improve your understanding of some music theory basics and also improve your ear, help you to improvise a little, and demonstrate the components of tasteful accompanying. Hosted by **Stephen Martorella** at First Baptist Church in America.

MAD ABOUT THE MASS

This little workshop may be one of the most valuable yet in terms of giving you practical skills to gain the confidence to play a Catholic Mass no matter what your background is. Two excellent, experienced musicians, **Stephen Romano**, head of National Pastoral Musicians in Rhode Island and Director of Liturgical Music at Providence's St. Augustine Church, and **Terry Lindsay**, Director of Music Ministry at Cranston's Immaculate Conception, will inform and guide you through the process of playing the Mass. Hosted by Terry Lindsay at St. Augustine Church.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES AND ACCOMPANYING SILENT FILM WORKSHOP

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to play the organ for a silent movie by just sitting on the bench, watching the film and then just improvising? Internationally acclaimed organist for silent films, **Peter Krasinski**, Organist of First Church Christ Scientist in Providence, has played for silent films to great critical and popular acclaim all over the globe. He will present a Saturday Night full-length feature silent film. In a separate workshop session, we will learn how it's done and have a chance to try it ourselves!

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Every level can participate in this fun and engaging event. Hosted by **Fred Jodry** at First Unitarian Church of Providence.

MEMBERS' RECITAL AND ANNUAL MEETING

This year we will be hosted by **Henri St. Louis** in the beautiful church of Our Lady of Mercy in East Greenwich.

Subject to Change

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

Contact *Julie Tagen (401-225-9594)* to list

Emmanuel Episcopal Church 2/19
120 Nate Whipple Highway, Cumberland, RI 019864
The Rev. Joan Testin, 401-658-1506
Allen \$200/wk O/D

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 11/18
111 East Shore Rd., Warwick, RI 02889
The Rev. Susan Wrathall day 401-737-3127 eve 401-617-0380
Steere & Turner \$16,000 O/D

St. Patrick Catholic Church 3/19
2068 Cranston St., Cranston, RI 02920
Fr. Roger Durand, 401-944-0001(day) 401-499-1076(eve)
Rodgers \$12,000 3 weekend Masses O/D

Greenville Baptist Church 7/19
582 Putnam Pike, Greenville, RI 02828
Elizabeth Gates 401-949-1134 (church),
401-632-6748 (text only)
Moller \$15-16,000 O/D

Woodridge Congregational Church 7/19
546 Budlong Rd., Cranston, RI 02920
Rev. Scott Spencer 401-942-0662, 508-838-0035 (c)
Wicks \$13,500 O/D

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact *Julie Tagen (401-225-9594)* with changes.

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Babbitt, Jonathan 401-864-9009
Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589
Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 (comfortable with any keyboard situation)
Jones, William: 401-848-4327 (all)
Kohl, Karen: 401-787-2695 Please Inquire
MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)
Norton-Jackson, Diana 401-714-2700 interim, sub, no weddings
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 (tutti@fullchannel.net)
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163
Vinson, Duncan: 781-888-3848
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)
Wilson, Lawrence: 860-857-5493 Organ; Sacred Jazz Composer/Arranger

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Black, John: 401-737-1230 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays)
Castellani, Roger: 917-621-6530
Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848
Martorella, Philip: 401-615-0769 (no Sun. a.m.)
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)

EVENTS

Monday, October 7 at 7:00 pm: Mark Steinbach, Professor at Brown, and **Reverend Janet Cooper-Nelson,** Chaplain of Brown University, present *Body, Mind, and Spirit, Immediately Practical Tips for Healthy Practicing* at Sayles Hall, Brown University. (See details in *SubDean's message*)

Sunday, November 3 at 4:30 pm: Diana Norton-Jackson will play a recital for the celebration of All Saints' Day at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wickford. Featured composers include R. Vaughn-Williams, Grayson Ives, C. H. H. Parry and A. Corelli. This will be followed at 5 pm by Choral Evensong with the St. Paul's Choir under the direction of **Dr. Todd Borgerding.**

SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to altheaallard@gmail.com or to Althea Allard, 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861. ADVERTISING: Word doc, PDF (print ready), JPG (high resolution), or TIFF. All files should be grayscale at 300 dpi resolution. Email to altheaallard@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4-page ad (3.5"W x 5"H): \$18 -or- 1/8-page ad (3.5"W x 2.5"H): \$10
Flyers provided electronically for inclusion with newsletter (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th. \$25 non-members.